

SUMMARY

Speakers:

TOMÁŠ VALÁŠEK

Chairman of the Slovak Group of Experts on NATO's new SC, Member of the Board of the SAC

STEVEN FLANAGAN

Senior Vice President and Henry A. Kissinger Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies

CAMILLE GRAND

Director, Foundation pour la recherche stratégique

The briefing was organised within project STRATCON 2010, all-year project of the Slovak Atlantic Commission on the NATO's new Strategic Concept. Briefing and discussion afterwards was held with two tens of participants from the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA) and Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA), the broadest international security NGO network of 41 countries across Euro-Atlantic region.

BRIEFING OF CIVILIAN ADVISERS TO NATO GOE TO MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION (ATA)

As for the latest development regarding preparation of NATO's new Strategic Concept, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen is rumoured to already have a first draft of the paper. He will have to release it by September 30, and two weeks afterward the "Superministerial" (NATO Defense and Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting) will take place on October 14 in Tirana, Albania. If everything is agreed upon at the Ministerial Meeting, NATO member countries can start finalizing the text. If not, they will month to settle their differences since the NATO Summit in Lisbon is in the second half of November later this year.

NATO in the wider world

NATO as a regional organisation has already been contributing to global stability and security; therefore, the new Strategic Concept will have to be truly understandable and strict to the point; it will have to be understood by everybody from decision makers to "Omaha milkmen", as the Washington Treaty was 60 years ago. The main threats nowadays do not emanate from the Euro-Atlantic region, but from the outside - this has to be underlined in the Concept as well. Threat does not have to necessarily be a threat to our territorial integrity, but a threat to our interests; and NATO has not developed a proper check list, criteria or guidelines on how to react so far. However, over defining what Article V or Article IV

of the Washington Treaty says, would be misleading.

Russia and NATO relationship in next decade

One of the biggest issues concerning the new Strategic Concept is supposed to be Russia. Analysis and recommendations of NATO GoE led by the Hon. Madeleine Albright has already called for a two-fold approach composed of engaging and deterring Russia, similarly to Harmel's Report in 1967. On the other hand, as it has been restated many times, NATO does not need Russia as its *raison d'être* since the end of the Cold War, and there exist plenty of other challenges that we can solve only through cooperation with Russia and by finding Russia as a partner in our common strategic interests. The NATO-Russia Council Meeting that will take place on September 20 - 21 in New York is expected to yield high potential. How Russian representatives perform will demonstrate if Russia is prepared for a better relationship with NATO. So far, there have been both negative indications and receptive and cooperative efforts from Russian experts designed to find common ground. It is important to say that the NATO GoE has already tried to reach a common position towards Russia in its analysis and recommendations to NATO's new Strategic Concept introduced on 17th May earlier this year. The NATO-Russia common missile



defence will be one of several valuable starting points, as long as it will not lead to a multi-billion euro programme that will not work and it will be established only for NATO to be Russia-friendly.

NATO Capabilities

NATO is longing for an internal reform that will go from investments, through a command structure, to headquarters and then to many other areas. A crucial part of it will be the nuclear issue that needs a forward leading language:

- it has to be said explicitly, who in NATO should have weapons, how many, where should they be deployed (an interesting debate on the issue is currently going on in Turkey)
- preservation of nuclear weapons at the present level and military relevance of nuclear weapons should be examined
- solve the dispute on whether missile defence could play a substitute role for nuclear deterrence (e.g. for France it is a complementary, not substitute role)

Remarks by Amb. ANATOLY ADAMISHIN, Russian Ambassador to Italy

After the discussion, Amb. Adamishin, President of the Russian Association for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation (member of the Atlantic Treaty Association), highlighted five points that are the pillars of Russian foreign policy towards NATO, shared by people close to President Dmitry Medvedev:

- Russia would like to have a clear invitation to join NATO
- stopping of contingency planning on both sides is desirable
- military-technical cooperation of NATO and Russia would be endorsed
- NATO should establish official relations with CSTO
- Russia would like to participate in common missile defence with NATO

Remarks by Amb. JERZY NOWAK, former Polish Ambassador to NATO

In his reply to the five points by the Russian Ambassador, Amb. Nowak, Vice-President of the Board of Polish Euro-Atlantic Association (member of the Atlantic Treaty Association), emphasised that there has to be clear understanding in Russia: in order to look trustworthy, Russian leaders have to take parallel steps in the area of demilitarisation, and

nuclear posture. These issues sometimes represent a problem: NATO countries want a clear signal from Moscow that Russia is changing, more reciprocity from the Russian side. We should also make existing institutions work and establish rules of game so that the Kirgiz crisis (in which nobody from Euro-Atlantic was able or willing to intervene) will not happen again.



List of participants:

Dr. TROELS FROLING, Secretary General, Atlantic Treaty Association / Danish Atlantic Treaty Association

Amb. ANATOLY ADAMISHIN, Russian Ambassador to Italy / President, Russian Association of the Euro-Atlantic Cooperation

Dr. WERNER FASSLABEND, former Austrian Minister of Defense / President, Euro-Atlantic Association of Austria

SAMUEL DE PAIVA PIRES, Executive Vice-President, Youth Atlantic Treaty Association / President, Portuguese Youth Atlantic Commission

MIROSLAV MIZERA, Vice-President, Youth Atlantic Treaty Association / Project Director STRATCON 2010, Slovak Atlantic Commission

JAN HAVRANEK, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Defense of Czech Republic

JAUHIEEN ZAMOJDZIN, Chairman, YATA Belarus

ZSOFIA ELEK, Vice-President, Hungarian Youth Atlantic Council

ALEXANDAR DJELOSJEVIC, Atlantic Council of Serbia

JORGE ARTUR GIRAO, Portuguese Atlantic Commission

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